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AIR MAIL NO. 114

SECURITY INFORMATION

DA-114

Chief, []

30 April 1953

Chief of Station, []

INFO: []

Operational
Approach Hostil

114. [] 171

1. Following receipt of the RePlatter report, [] followed the instructions set forth in AIR 42591 and discussed the pertinent points with Hostil.
2. [] commenced by having Hostil sign a statement that he would not divulge anything concerning the conversation about to take place. Hostil was then informed that [] had received a letter from Germany indicating that although department of defense budgetary cuts have resulted in a general personnel freeze throughout Europe for the moment, the friend passed Hostil's papers to others along with [] recommendation. [] then emphasized that Hostil should consider it an honor to even be considered for a job of the type about to be described and proceeded to explain that our Government, in the interest of peace, must make every effort to study the strength of the Russian Communists in order to prevent the free world from being overrun. Hostil was told that, on the basis of his apparent qualifications and leadership among the Circassians, the friend in Germany was of the belief that Hostil could aid us by spotting and recommending intelligent, alert Circassians possessing courage and being of sound physical condition. The point was stressed that the standards for that type of job are very high and only thoroughly qualified men would be considered. Reference was made to the thorough training to which the men will be subjected and that no man would be expected to undertake anything beyond his capacity. [] emphasized the research, techniques, skills and other know-how available to the U.S. and assured him the entire project could be handled on a professional basis. Hostil was reminded of the Beirut testing (which greatly impressed him) as an indication of our thoroughness and determination.

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3. Nostril was very attentive during the entire discussion and appeared to recognize the importance of such an undertaking.
 [] gave him an out by stating that if for any reason he could not see his way clear to undertake such an assignment, the former would make every effort to help him obtain some other clerical job in Europe when the freeze ends.
4. Nostril expressed his appreciation for [] recommendation and the confidence in him as expressed by the U.S. Government. He stated that he neither considered the request inconsistent with the Caucasian aims nor with the individual interests of the members of the Azman group and agreed to undertake an assignment to spot and recruit Circassians for cross border ops into the USSR. He pointed out that he did not consider himself personally qualified for such an operation because he is probably well known in the Caucasus and because of his family obligations.
5. [] asked Nostril to consider the proposition for a few days more in order that he might be absolutely certain of his conclusion. In a subsequent meeting on 23 April, following [] return from Israel, Nostril reiterated his promise to assist us and agreed to start immediately collecting the required info.
6. No indication whatsoever was made concerning our assets in the USSR or the fact that we have ever undertaken such a mission before.
7. Although we were confident, as stated in Beirut on 11 April, that Nostril would go along with us, we were pleased with his attitude and response and feel that an important hurdle has been cleared.
8. Many details remain to be worked out concerning such things as Nostril's cover and the determination of where to inform the candidates of the type of mission we actually have in mind. We are already considering these and other problems and will apprise Headquarters of our recommendations.
9. As stated in [] II, Nostril has three prospects in mind and is presently obtaining the required info.

25 April 1953

Distribution:
 3 Headquarters
 1 []

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